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**USAF BIOENVIRONMENTAL NOISE DATA HANDBOOK**  
**Volume 146**  
**F-16B In-Flight Crew Noise**

AUGUST 1979

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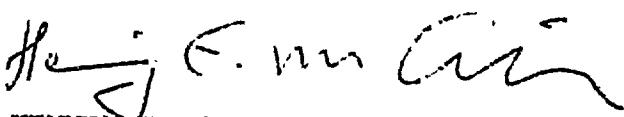
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FOR THE COMMANDER



HENNING E. VON GIERKE

Director

Biodynamics and Bioengineering Division  
Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory

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interference level, perceived noise level, and limiting times for total daily exposure of personnel with and without standard Air Force ear protectors. Refer to Volume 1 of this handbook, USAF Bioenvironmental Noise Data Handbook, Volume 1: Organization, Content and Application, AMRL-TR-75-50(1) 1975, for discussion of the objective and design of the handbook, the types of data presented, measurement procedures, instrumentation, data processing, definitions of quantities, symbols, equations, applications, limitations, etc.



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## PREFACE

This report was prepared by the Biodynamic Environment Branch, Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, under Project/Task 723108, Crew Safety In Operational Noise Environments.

The author acknowledges the efforts of Mr. John N. Cole who established the data analysis requirements, Mr. Henry Mohlman and Mr. Fred Lampley of the University of Dayton who assisted in the mechanics of data processing and Mrs. Norma Peachey who typed this report and prepared it for publication.

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## INTRODUCTION

The F-16B is a USAF light-weight fighter manufactured by the General Dynamics Corporation. This aircraft is powered by one F-100-PW-200(3) turbofan engine rated at 25,000 lbs. maximum takeoff thrust with afterburner. The engine is manufactured by the United Aircraft Corporation, Pratt & Whitney Division.

This volume provides measured data defining the bioacoustic environments produced inside this aircraft. Such data are essential to evaluate ear protection requirements, limiting personnel exposure times, voice communication capabilities, and annoyance problems associated with operations of the F-16B aircraft.

This volume is one of a series published by the Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory (AMRL) under the same report number (AMRL-TR-75-50) as a multi-volume handbook that quantifies the noise environments produced at flight/ground crew locations and in surrounding communities by operations of Air Force aircraft and ground support equipment. The far-field, community-type, noise data in the handbook describe the noise produced during *ground operations* of aircraft, ground support equipment, and other ground-based equipment or facilities.

Volume 1 of this handbook discusses the objectives and design of the handbook, the types of data presented, measurement procedures, instrumentation, data processing, definitions of quantities, symbols, equations, applications, limitations, etc. Refer to Volume 1 (reference 1) for such information because it is not repeated in other handbook volumes.

A cumulative index lists those aerospace systems contained in the handbook, and identifies the specific volumes containing each type of environmental noise data available (i.e., in-flight/flight crew and passenger noise, near-field/ground crew noise, far-field/community noise). Volume numbers are assigned sequentially as individual volumes are published. This index is periodically updated as individual volumes are published, and is available upon request from AMRL/BBE, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433. Organizations on the distribution list for the handbook will automatically receive a copy of the updated index as it is generated.

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1. Cole, John N., *USAF Bioenvironmental Noise Data Handbook, Volume 1: Organization, Content and Application*, AMRL-TR-75-50 (1), Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 1975.

## **IN-FLIGHT NOISE**

### **MEASUREMENTS**

All noise measurements were made on-board a F-16B aircraft during typical speed, altitude, and flight maneuver conditions. These levels describe the standard F-16B environments but may not be representative of those levels encountered if the aircraft has been configured differently (e.g., major equipment or structural changes).

Acoustic measurements were made inside the cockpit at the pilot's location. Table 1 lists the measurement location and test conditions as numeric/alphabetic designators which are used on the data pages. The designator 1/A means measurement location 1 and test condition A, etc.

The microphone was attached to the pilot's helmet by means of a lightweight boom. This arrangement enabled adjustment of the microphone close to the ear level at a distance of 0.1 meter with its diaphragm parallel and facing away from the helmet's surface. In the analysis, microphone corrections for random incidence were applied to the overall systems response. The recorded samples were analyzed using a four or eight second integration time to obtain a power-averaged level which effectively smooths out short duration fluctuations and best describes the exposure.

### **Results**

The measured data presented in Table 2 define the sound pressure levels (SPL) produced inside the F-16B aircraft at the specified location. This table includes the overall,  $\frac{1}{3}$  octave band, and octave band levels. From these data, C-weighted and A-weighted sound levels, maximum permissible time for one exposure per day (AFR 161-35) with and without standard Air Force ear protectors, preferred speech interference level, and perceived noise level are calculated and presented in Table 3. These measures are widely used to assess the effects of noise on personnel and their performance.

**TABLE 1**  
**MEASUREMENT LOCATIONS AND TEST CONDITIONS**  
**F-16B, Edwards AFB CA, 12 June 1979**

<i>Location</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Height Above Deck</i>
1	Pilot Front Seat	Seated Head Level
2	Co-pilot Back Seat	Seated Head Level
<i>Condition</i>		<i>Description</i>
Front Seat		
A	Ground run up – engine speed 75% N ECS Source – OFF (Canopy closed)	
B	Ground run up – engine speed 75% N ECS Air Source – Norm Temp. control – comfortable Auto position Defog – Full AFT position	
C	Ground run up – engine speed 75% N ECS Air Source – Norm Temp. control – Manual warm position short of thermostat cycling Defog – Full AFT position	
D	Normal MIL Power takeoff FCR – STBY Air Source – Norm Temp. control – comfortable Auto Defog – Full AFT position	
E	MIL Power climb to 5000'	
F	Cruise at 5000' – Speed 488 KIAS – .8M	
G	Cruise at 5000' – Speed 488 KIAS – .8M Defog – MAX Defog	
H	Cruise at 5000' – Speed 488 KIAS – .8M Temp. control – Comfortable Manual Defog – Full AFT position	
I	Cruise at 5000' – Speed 488 KIAS – .8M Temp control – Manual warm (short of thermostat cycling) Defog – Full AFT position	

<i>Condition</i>	<i>Description</i>
Front Seat	
J	MIL Power climb 5000' - 30000' Speed 488 KIAS - .8M to 304 KIAS - .8M Air Source - Norm Temp. control - Auto (mid) Defog - Full FWD position
K	Cruise at 30000' Speed 304 KIAS - .8M Air Source - Norm Temp. control - Auto (mid) Defog - Full FWD position
L	Descent from 30000' to 25000' Speed 304 KIAS - .8M - 338 KIAS - .8M Idle Power, S/B out Air Source - Norm Temp. control - comfortable Auto Defog - MAX Defog
M	Cruise at 25000' Speed 338 KIAS - .8M Air Source - Norm Temp. control - Auto (mid) Defog - Full FWD position
N	Descent from 25000' to 20000' Speed 338 KIAS - .8M - 373 KIAS - .8M Idle Power, S/B out Air Source - Norm Temp. control - Auto (mid) Defog - Full FWD position
O	Cruise at 20000' Speed 373 KIAS - .8M Air Source - Norm Temp. control - Auto (mid) Defog - Full FWD position
P	Cruise at 20000' Speed 373 KIAS - .8M Air Source - OFF

<i>Condition</i>		<i>Description</i>
<i>Front Seat</i>		
<b>Q</b>		Descent from 20000' to 5000' Idle Power – S/B out Air Source – Norm Temp. control – Auto (mid) Defog – Full FWD position
<b>R</b>		Cruise at 5000' Speed 488 KIAS – .8M Air Source – Norm Temp. control – Manual Defog – Full FWD position
<b>S</b>		MIL Power climb to 5000' to 40000' Speed 0.8M Temp. control – Auto (mid) Defog – MAX
<b>T</b>		Hi-speed run 40000' – .8M to 1.12M Air Source – Norm Temp. control – Auto (mid) Defog – MAX
<b>U</b>		Descent from 40000' to 20000' Idle Power – S/B out
<b>V</b>		Air combat maneuvering (20000') Air Source – Norm Temp. control – comfortable Auto Defog – Full AFT position
<b>W</b>		Descent 20000' to 10000' Idle Power – S/B out Air Source – Norm Temp. control – comfortable Auto Defog – Norm
<b>X</b>		Hi-speed run 1000' – .8M to 1.12M Air Source – Norm Temp. control – comfortable Auto Defog – Full AFT position
<b>Y</b>		Descent 10000' to 5000' Speed 448 – .8M to 488 KIAS – .8M Air Source – Norm Temp. control – comfortable Auto Defog – MAX

<i>Condition</i>	<i>Description</i>
Z	Landing and roll out Air Source - Norm Temp. control ~ Auto (mid) Defog - Full FWD position
Back Seat	
A	Ground run up - engine speed Idle Air Source - Norm Temp. control ~ comfortable Auto
B	Normal MIL Power takeoff Air Source - Norm Temp. control ~ comfortable Auto
C	Cruise at 7500' - speed 250 KIAS Air Source - Norm Temp. control ~ comfortable Auto
D	Descent from 14000' to 5000' Idle Power - S/B out Air Source - Norm Temp. control ~ comfortable Auto
E	Normal landing traffic pattern

( TABLE: MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (dB)  
**2** 1/3 OCTAVE BAND

NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT:	OPERATION:	LOCATION/CONDITION										1/N
		1/A	1/B	1/C	1/D	1/E	1/F	1/G	1/H	1/I	1/J	
F-16B AIRCRAFT IN-FLIGHT CREW NOISE		25	72	79	80	84	82	83	81	89	79	71
		31.5	77	81	80	91	82	84	80	89	87	78
		46	87	91	92	94	93	94	91	98	97	99
		50	79	90	89	88	86	90	90	92	94	87
		63	76	85	84	85	82	85	84	87	89	83
		80	85	91	92	95	90	93	90	95	96	90
		100	87	92	92	94	91	94	97	101	100	93
		125	86	92	91	91	90	92	93	95	97	91
		160	82	88	88	89	91	94	90	94	96	92
		200	85	94	93	92	92	96	93	98	100	93
		250	85	96	94	96	97	99	96	103	104	94
		31.5	85	96	94	94	95	97	94	102	103	92
		400	90	95	93	93	92	96	95	98	99	93
		500	86	95	93	97	95	97	96	100	101	96
		630	84	92	90	90	93	96	95	100	101	97
		800	84	92	91	93	94	95	97	97	102	94
		1000	79	92	91	90	92	97	96	99	103	94
		1250	78	90	87	85	87	91	96	93	100	96
		1600	77	87	85	84	86	91	97	93	99	98
		2000	75	83	80	82	84	91	97	90	97	97
		2500	73	77	81	78	81	87	96	88	95	95
		3150	76	76	74	74	78	85	97	87	91	95
		4000	77	78	77	74	82	85	98	85	92	97
		5000	77	78	76	72	77	83	99	86	93	98
		6300	75	76	75	74	79	84	100	85	91	99
		8000	69	72	71	70	74	79	96	81	91	95
		10000	66	70	67	66	71	76	95	79	89	95
		12500	58	61	59	60	69	71	90	75	81	91
OVERALL		97	105	104	106	105	107	110	111	113	109	100

LEVEL CORRECTED TO REMOVE BACKGROUND/ELECTRONIC NOISE.

TABLE: MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (03)  
**2**  
 1/3 OCTAVE BAND

NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT:		OPERATION:		LOCATION/CONDITION		TEST AK-079-001		TEST AK-079-002		TEST AK-079-003		
F-16B AIRCRAFT IN-FLIGHT CREW NOISE												
FREQ (HZ)		1/P	1/Q	1/R	1/S	1/T	1/U	1/V	1/W	1/X	1/Y	1/Z
25	71	76	72	76	74	78	66	65	80	75	81	82
31.5	72	72	76	76	77	66	64	81	76	79	81	76
40	63	82	92	88	89	76	78	90	99	87	91	89
50	76	74	85	82	86	70	76	80	92	79	87	86
63	73	72	79	84	81	66	72	75	78	77	82	82
80	84	85	91	91	93	76	79	87	92	90	92	89
100	90	94	97	99	95	81	88	88	96	92	100	91
125	86	87	90	93	91	79	82	85	89	89	93	89
160	87	88	87	95	92	91	81	88	88	95	92	85
200	89	91	88	98	94	82	84	90	90	93	93	89
250	90	90	90	98	95	90	82	94	92	95	95	88
315	88	88	89	94	94	81	81	91	92	94	94	88
400	89	89	90	95	94	81	81	89	89	93	92	89
500	92	91	92	97	96	85	84	92	92	96	94	90
630	93	92	92	98	95	84	84	92	91	97	95	93
800	92	89	88	96	94	82	81	91	88	96	92	93
1000	88	86	86	96	94	80	81	88	87	94	89	88
1250	91	85	87	95	94	81	84	84	84	92	87	93
1600	89	83	86	95	94	80	82	83	82	89	84	94
2000	88	82	85	94	93	79	82	81	80	88	82	94
2500	86	81	82	92	92	76	79	79	78	86	79	92
3150	86	80	82	93	93	76	79	77	77	86	80	92
4000	88	78	83	94	95	78	82	77	78	85	80	94
5000	87	80	82	94	93	75	80	75	75	83	79	94
6300	87	76	82	94	94	76	79	78	77	85	77	95
8000	84	74	79	91	91	73	75	77	82	80	74	91
10000	83	73	78	89	90	72	74	77	76	79	71	90
12500	80	70	74	84	84	70	70	73	75	74	68	85
OVERALL	102	101	103	109	107	96	96	102	102	106	105	105

LEVEL CORRECTED TO REMOVE BACKGROUND/ELECTRONIC NOISE.

TABLE 2 MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (DB)

NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT:	OPERATION:	IDENTIFICATION:				
		TEST AK-079-001	OMEGA 302	RUN 03	23 JUL 79	PAGE F 3
FREQ (HZ)		LOCATION/CONDITION				
		2/A	2/B	2/C	2/D	2/E
25	31.5	69	82	79	71	80
40		76	88	83	76	84
50		91	97	92	87	92
63		81	93	88	82	87
80		76	88	80	80	81
100		76	69	64	87	86
125		66	93	89	94	90
160		83	90	88	91	88
200		78	87	86	87	86
250		77	89	91	90	95
315		81	93	95	95	92
400		76	90	91	91	91
500		79	88	91	94	90
630		61	93	91	93	92
800		64	96	91	90	92
1000		81	96	88	87	89
1250		78	91	85	86	85
1600		79	88	84	88	84
2000		76	88	86	87	85
2500		80	87	89	86	84
3150		76	86	86	84	82
4000		81	82	84	83	81
5000		78	82	85	81	83
6300		73	79	87	81	91
8000		74	80	81	79	80
10000		69	77	79	78	78
12500		65	75	76	77	78
	OVERALL	59	71	74	76	72
		95	145	142	143	103

LEVEL CORRECTED TO REMOVE BACKGROUND/ELECTRONIC NOISE.

TABLE: MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (DB)

**3**

NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT: F-16B AIRCRAFT IN-FLIGHT CREW NOISE

OPERATION: TEST AK-079-061

TEST DATE: 23 JUL 79

PAGE: J1

LOCATION/CONDITION: 1/A 1/B 1/C 1/D 1/E 1/F 1/G 1/H 1/I 1/J 1/K 1/L 1/M 1/N

FREQ (HZ): 31.5 63 125 250 500 1000 2000 4000 8000

MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (DB):

1/A	1/B	1/C	1/D	1/E	1/F	1/G	1/H	1/I	1/J	1/K	1/L	1/M	1/N
86	92	96	94	95	92	99	98	90	81	86	83	91	
86	94	96	93	95	94	97	99	92	83	84	87	88	
90	96	95	96	95	98	99	102	103	97	93	92	96	
90	100	98	99	100	102	99	106	107	96	91	69	92	
92	99	97	101	96	101	100	104	105	110	94	92	95	
96	95	95	96	96	100	101	102	106	99	92	88	91	
89	86	87	89	95	101	95	102	102	90	96	90	89	
81	82	80	78	84	89	103	91	97	102	89	67	87	
76	76	77	76	81	86	102	87	95	101	87	84	86	
97	135	104	106	105	107	110	111	113	119	103	96	100	
OVERALL													

TABLE: MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (DB)  
3 OCTAVE BAND

NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT:	OPERATION:										LOCATION/CONDITION			
	1/0	1/P	1/Q	1/R	1/S	1/T	1/U	1/V	1/W	1/X	1/Y	1/Z		
F-16B AIRCRAFT IN-FLIGHT CREW NOISE	64	83	92	88	90	77	78	90	89	88	92	89	91	91
	65	86	92	92	92	97	91	92	93	90	93	90	93	94
	93	96	98	101	97	92	90	92	98	97	97	96	99	93
	94	94	94	102	99	91	87	97	96	96	99	95	100	96
	95	95	95	101	100	88	86	96	95	95	100	98	100	96
	91	92	101	98	86	87	93	91	99	99	95	97		
	87	89	98	83	86	86	85	81	81	89	84	86	87	86
	92	84	87	98	81	85	82	82	84	87	79	84	87	84
	89	79	85	96	97	78	82	82	82	84	87	79	87	84
OVERALL	102	101	103	109	107	96	96	102	102	106	105	105		

( TABLE: MEASURED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL (DB) OCTAVE BAND  
**3**

NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT:		OPERATION:		TEST	
F-16B AIRCRAFT		IN-FLIGHT CREW NOISE		AK-079-101	
				RUN 83	
				23 JUL 79	
				PAGE J3	

		LOCATION/CONDITION			
FREQ (HZ)		2/A	2/B	2/C	2/D
31.5		91	97	93	87
63		83	95	90	89
125		88	95	92	96
250		83	96	97	97
500		86	95	97	95
1K		84	97	91	92
2K		83	92	92	90
4K		83	86	90	86
8K		76	82	84	82
<b>OVERALL</b>		95	105	102	103
					103



TABLE I. MEASURES OF HUMAN NOISE EXPOSURE

**HAZARD/PROTECTION**  
C-WEIGHTED OVERALL SOUND LEVEL (OASLC IN DBC) AT EAR  
A-WEIGHTED OVERALL SOUND LEVEL (OASLA IN DBA) AT EAR  
MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE TIME (T IN MINUTES) FOR ONE EXPOSURE PER DAY (AFR 161-35, JULY 73)  
NO PROTECTION

**COMMUNICATION PREFERRED SPEECH INTERFERENCE LEVEL (PSIL IN DB)**

## ANNOYANCE PERCEIVED NOISE LEVEL: TONE CORRECTED (PNLT IN PNDL)

TONE CORRECTION (C IN DB)

BASED ON CALCULATED SPECTRUM UNDER PROTECTIVE DEVICE.

( TABLE I MEASURES OF HUMAN NOISE EXPOSURE

		IDENTIFICATIONS			
NOISE SOURCE/SUBJECT	OPERATION	OASLC	OASLA	PNLT	C
F-16B AIRCRAFT		94	104	113	117
IN-FLIGHT CREW NOISE		90	101	114	112
		173	25	1	1
		36	42	1	3
		42	42		
LOCATION/CONDITION		2/A	2/B	2/C	2/D
2/E					
HAZARD/PROTECTION					
C-WEIGHTED OVERALL SOUND LEVEL (OASLC IN DB) AT EAR					
A-WEIGHTED OVERALL SOUND LEVEL (OASLA IN DB) AT EAR					
MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE TIME (T IN MINUTES) FOR ONE EXPOSURE PER DAY (AFR 161-35, JULY 73)					
NO PROTECTION					
OASLC		94	104	112	113
OASLA		90	101	99	98
T		173	25	36	42
HGU-2A/P HELMET WITH H-15*					
OASLC	*	78	89	91	89
T	*	96u	242	170	171
HGU-2A/P HELMET WITH H-15+(A)					
OASLC	*	74	85	85	86
T	*	960	404	464	339
HGU-2A/P HELMET WITH CUSTOM LINER					
OASLC	*	64	96	93	94
T	*	460	60	101	85
COMMUNICATION PREFERRED SPEECH INTERFERENCE LEVEL (PSIL IN DB)					
PSIL		84	96	93	92
ANNOYANCE PERCEIVED NOISE LEVEL, TONE CORRECTED (PNLT IN PNDB)					
TONE CORRECTION (C IN DB)					
PNLT		106	113	114	112
C		1	1	1	1
					3

\* BASED ON CALCULATED SPL SPECTRUM UNDER PROTECTIVE DEVICE.